

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: WJ4PRandy@aol.com
Subject: [2805] 40-9er BC interference
Message-ID: <960818151138_388119207@emout19.mail.aol.com>

In my experimenting with the NE602 chip,
I have found that the ne602 is more suseptable
to BC detection if the input and output circuits
are unbalanced types instead of balanced. For
example, using both input pins of the lm386
and using both output pins of the NE602 to
couple audio will yield some improvement
but require a second FET mute transistor.
Also, ungrounding and connecting the "bottom"
of the input tuned circuit (C20,C2,RFC1) to pin
2 of the NE602 should help as well. I suggest keeping
C3 connected to ground on pin 2.
One other observation... It is very important to bypass
the supply to the NE602 to keep "signals" from getting
to the audio amp for "detection". I have been using a
2Kohm in series with pin 8 and a .1uF and a 10uF cap
to ground from pin 8 with success in my trials with the
hw7 mods.

73, Randy WJ4P

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: KB0PJE /5 JFD <jdougher@wt.net>
Subject: [2807] 49-er Finished
Message-ID: <321816D7.1F39@wt.net>

Finished the 49-er kit today and pass many thanks to the developers. It
was lots of fun, and fired right up (after final check catch of 2
capacitors reversed). Very happy it works, cause I haven't built a kit
since 60'w when last into radio.....

Ideas from project:

1. Made a small key with a 2.5 mm plug and a microswitch that had a
small metal "bumper paddle" on it. Drilled hole in plug to accept
one of the switches terminals, and used real opening on plug shell to
get wire in from other terminal. After getting wiring soldered, jammed
the
two together and used glue gun to hold everything together. Final
assembly only about 1.5 in long by 1 in. high.

2. Found a small 12V battery at Radio Shack. It's only about 75% of the size of a AA. Don't know the MAH rating, and the guy in the store couldn't find it in the book. But it;s only \$2.89 (alkaline).
Supposedly this size is for car alarm systems, or such.....

3. Ran wide electrical tape across Altoid tin bottom to prevent shorts. Took two strips of wide 1.5" tape to cover bottom.

4. USed #4-40 screws and nuts for standoffs. Two nuts seem to work OK as perfect hight to lift board off bottom, and still have room for door to close.

5. Opted for putting battery outside so I could choose to run 12 volt.

6. On 12VDC supply the rig tunes 7040.8 to 7045.7. On a falling 9VDC battery, it runes 7039.7 to 7044.4 right out of the box (this new board rev includes the bigger cap and the small parallel one.) No problems with parastics or problems with the chokes as supplied.)

Many thanks for all the posted tips from previous buiders (especially the one about backing up the Altoids tin when drilling! - And thanks for the

tip on the Hancock Fabric INCANDESCENT magnifier. The ten Bucks for it fit my budget, and it worked fine (except for the heat from it as I leaned over it in my 105 deg Houston garage workbench.....)

Now to start the mods. I believe the receive audio boost mod will be the first, as that is the most bothersome. Other than that, overall receive seems OK. No Q's yet, but maybe later tonight.

72,

KB0PJE /5 Houston

Jack Dougherty

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996

From: n5zgt@swcp.com (Brian Mileschosky)

Subject: [2808] ==> WANT: HyGain Tape Antenna <==

Message-ID: <199608190354.VAA00266@kitsune.swcp.com>

Hello Everybody,

I have posted this message on this group before, and had no luck. Maybe this last post will do it for me!

I am looking for a HyGain tape measure dipole. I know there has been a lot of discussion about them here, so maybe this is the place to find one.

If you, or anybody you know, has one for sale, PLEASE E-Mail me at n5zgt@swcp.com and I will be MORE than happy to take it off your hands! I hope to hear from somebody soon. Thanks!

72,
Brian, N5ZGT

Boy Scouts of America	Amateur Radio - N5ZGT
JASM -Troop 41	ARRL QRP: NorCal# 1700 QRP-L# 580
Albuquerque, N.M.	Packet: N5ZGT @ KC5IZT.ALBQ.NM.USA.NA
O.A. Lodge 66 <-W-W-W-<<	Internet: n5zgt@swcp.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: Dave Hockaday <wb4iuy@ipass.net>
Subject: [2801] Cleaning out the shack a bit...
Message-ID: <199608181709.NAA19451@passport.ipass.net>

I'm in the process of upgrading my shack and am doing a little "thinning out" of equipment, parts, etc. If interested, look at
<http://www.ipass.net/~hockaday/>

If you don't have a browser and would like an email with my "for sale" list, drop me a note at hockaday@ipass.net

Thanks

73 de Dave Hockaday WB4IUY
wb4iuy@ipass.net

<http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/3341/>
<http://www.ipass.net/~teara/> (soon to be active)
<http://www.RTPnet.org/~fcarc/>
(alternate) <http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/3212/>
<http://www.RTPnet.org/~rdrc/>
<http://www.webbuild.com/~wb4iuy/> (soon to be <http://www.ipass.net/~wb4iuy/>)
<http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/3489/>
<http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/3349/>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: svecbrdk@well.com (L.Svec,W.Burdick)
Subject: [2810] Ferrite beads, J309's, MVAM108s: examples of Future Stock?

Message-ID: <199608182250.PAA09002@mh1.well.com>

A few of you have asked me about hard-to-find parts. Bob Dyer at Wilderness Radio has always made things like these available to his customers but hasn't ever put firm prices on them.

Here are the items that I'll ask Bob to put prices on and list in the Wilderness catalog. If you have others in mind, let me know. Until he actually sets prices, please just continue to call or write to Wilderness when you need them.

MVAM108 varactor diode
J309 JFET
2N3553
10-turn, 10K pot (for NC40A)
1-turn, 10K pot (for ABX control)
Small Sierra-style knob
Small NC40A-style knob
FB64-101 ferrite bead

73,
Wayne
N6KR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: HamRadio <qrp@earthlink.net>
Subject: [2804] FS: Argosy 525, Argonaut 509
Message-ID: <32175156.189@earthlink.net>

Argosy 525 \$375 Plus UPS
Argonaut 509 \$225 Plus UPS
Please email for particulars, condition, accessories, etc.
--

RSCHNICK
Low power enthusiast

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996

B) The RF Connection, Gaithersburg, MD 800+783-2666 has 2 neat offerings:

- 1) 1/16" Kevlar cord, covered with *fine* copper braid @ \$19/100' or 0.21/ft (also available on 1K' spools) (135 ft. weight = 4 oz.)
- 2) 3/32" Kevlar cord (same as above) - - -23/100, or \$0.25/ft. (Also 1K spl.)

Kevlar is strong, does not stretch, uv proof, dark olive drab, used in <<<bullet-proof vests. (Heat softens, solder w/care, or use alligator clips)<<<

The instruction manual I received today is very descriptive and contains a number of pictures and drawings. The new 19-PD is NOT as equal substitute for the tape-measure dipole. A drawing or picture is worth a thousand words (no, ten thousand the way I write). But the way I would describe it is that you have a so-239 center-piece to which is attached to 116 1/2 ft runs on each side of the embedded cord. These have attached at their ends manual cable/rope winds (Hy-Gain calls them 'element bobbins'). I use cords, all kinds of windable things. Actually these appear to very pretty fancy 'bobbins' as they have an extension off of each each where the end of the cable is attached and the frequency marker on the cable is pushed thru a binding post with a knurled nut to tighten the assembly. I am not an antenna expert but I have built a variety of increasingly esoteric wire antennas and it appears to me that the unused element cord still wound up on the bobbin probably provides a measure of capacitance that widens the 1:1 band-width of the antenna. Something like a double bazooka. To the ends and butting up against the element bobbins are another bobbin at each end serving as storage for the 100' of dacron cord used to hang it in the trees. My impression: While I am sure this is a fine product, it is NOT what I would call a suitable replacement for my tape-measure dipole. Actually it looks a lot like a few portable dipoles I have put together. The 'bobbin' with the knurled nut hardware looks interesting but not impossible to put together yourself. At the srp (suggested retail price) of \$263.95 this thing looks like a \$1200 USAF toilet seat in my mind. I don't believe I would be interested at 1/2 the price. - - - - -

On AUG 96 W4SON wrote:

```
<<<- - - Sources of flexible wire:
```

A) The Wireman, Inc. 800+727-9473 "SILKY #534-CQ 'Invisible' copper-clad steel #26 (19 strands) with a thin, tough dull black polyethylene jacket @0.12/ft (1K' spool lots - 8-14-96 quote) (Silky also available in #18 <16 strand>)

B) The RF Connection, Gaithersburg, MD 800+783-2666 has 2 neat offerings:
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[illegible]

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 <<substitute for the tape-measure dipole. A drawing or picture is worth a
 <<thousand words (no, ten thousand the way I write). But the way I would
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 <<1/2 ft runs on each side of the embedded cord. These have attached at their
 <<ends manual cable/rope winds (Hy-Gain calls them 'element bobbins'). I use
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 <<fancy 'bobbins' as they have an extension off of each each where the end of
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[illegible]

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 - 2) 3/32" Kevlar cord (same as above) - -23/100, or \$0.25/ft. (Also 1K spl.)

John Dorson Real Estate Consultant

Trying for WAS - AL,AK,AZ,AR,CA,CO,CT,FL,IL,IA,KS,KY,LA,ME,MD,MA
MI,MN,MT,NH,NJ,NY,NC,ND,OH,OK,OR,PA,RI,TX,VT,VA
WA,WI

K2JHU only QRP...

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996

From: Steve Bornstein <saborns@freenet.columbus.oh.us>

Subject: [2807] OHR DD-1 Digital Dial/Counter

Message-ID: <Pine.3.07.9608182337.A22402-a1000000@login>

Hello Gang,

I just completed the OHR DD-1 Digital Dial and am using it with my OHR-400. The kit goes together very smoothly. Instructions and parts quality is excellent. The unit uses the C-5 frequency counter chip developed by Adventure Radio. The counter will operate from 100hz to 50Mhz and can be programed in a multitude of ways to accomodate pretty much any rig (it has stored offset and will track normal or inverted. It is styled in the standard Oak Hills white and black and measures 1 3/4 H x 4 1/2 W and 4 D. It can be operated on 9 - 13.6 VDC and draws 100 ma with all six digits active. With all digits blanked it draws 40 ma. Incidentally, the counter input signal should be in the 75mv to 1 volt rms range and in the digital dial mode requires about -10dbm of signal.

73, Steve K8IDN QRP-L #331

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996

From: n4so@juno.com (CHARLES K BROWN)

Subject: [2798] QRZ ONLINE callsigns

Message-ID: <19960818.082650.4591.4.n4so@juno.com>

I TRIED THE E-MAIL CALLSIGN LOOKUP AT THE ADDRESS lookup@qrz.com and it worked.

YOU CAN ADD YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO YOUR CALLSIGN IN THE SERVER BY SENDING TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS AND USE THE FORMAT:

updates@qrz.com

and substitute your own callsign and e-mail address....

qrz_email W1ABC user@email.com

IF YOU TRY THE LOOKUP IT WILL EXPLAIN THIS AND GIVE YOU THE SAMPLE ABOVE.
N4SO

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: Russ1031@aol.com
Subject: [2811] Results for the August Spartan Sprint
Message-ID: <960818192837_459520793@emout19.mail.aol.com>

Summer vacations and nasty band conditions cut down participation in the August Spartan Sprint. However, all of us had fun, and a few mighty skillful operators had excellent results. It was a good time to be in the land of 4s and 5s. Our members in Arizona were darn near cooked by lightning storms.

I've posted the Soapbox separately. Check it out--it makes great reading!

Dan, N7CQR, was vacationing with his family here on the McKenzie River and joined me for the Sprints. What a fine fellow! I have a visual memory I won't forget for a long time. Dan, at 6'7", is a pretty big boy. When he was hunched over my G4ZPY miniature paddles, he looked like Goliath crushing a tiny golden bug (just kidding, Dan).

I've posted the scores in two tables. Table One shows the results in terms of Qs per pound, while Table Two shows Qs only. Adventure Radio Society is issuing award certificates to the top four performers in the Qs per pound category. ARS' contest manager (AA7QU) has declared himself ineligible for awards, so you can mentally remove that rascal's name from the listings.

If you're already a member of ARS, we have your address and can mail your certificate promptly. If you're not a member, but placed in the top four, just e-mail your address to Russ Carpenter, AA7QU (Russ1031@aol.com). Or, better yet, you could join ARS. At \$0.00 per year, it's a pretty good deal. Contact our Membership Chairman, Richard Fisher, KI6SN (KI6SN@aol.com).

For the following tables to line up correctly, be sure that your e-mail reader is set up with a monospaced font.

Call	Name	QSOs	Wt.	Qs/Pound
AE4CA	Bob	8	1.5	5.33

WB5QMP	Randy	6	1.7	3.53
WJ4P	Randy	15	7.25	2.07
WA7FCU	Bob	4	2.3	1.74
AE4IC	Bob	16	11	1.45
AA7QU	Russ & Dan	10	7.9	1.27
K8IDN	Steve	12	14	0.86
KJ5VW	Gary	2	2.35	0.85
KJ5TF	Jim	3	5	0.60
KR4IT	Mike	1	100	0.01

Call	Name	QSOs	Wt.	Qs/Pound
AE4IC	Bob	16	11	1.45
WJ4P	Randy	15	7.25	2.07
K8IDN	Steve	12	14	0.86
AA7QU	Russ & Dan	10	7.9	1.27
AE4CA	Bob	8	1.5	5.33
WB5QMP	Randy	6	1.7	3.53
WA7FCU	Bob	4	2.3	1.74
KJ5TF	Jim	3	5	0.60
KJ5VW	Gary	2	2.35	0.85
KR4IT	Mike	1	100	0.01

We'll return to our standard day for September, the first Monday of the Month (September 2). The first announcement will be posted in a few days.

Thanks to all who participated.

72, Russ Carpenter, AA7QU
ARS#1

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: "Arjen Raateland, SYKE/YV, puh. 90-4030 0457" <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
Subject: [2792] RTV sealant?
Message-ID: <01I8E4QHU3DQ8WYMLB@vyh21.vyh.fi>

Thought I'd relay this bit of very useful info. Thanks, Paul!

>When you specify RTV you need to specify Electronic Grade RTV
>which is fairly hard to find in stores. The regular RTV (that smells
>like vinegar) has acetic acid in it which will eat up your
>wires after a while. Paul S.

QRP-L'ers,

Now that we're on the subject of silicone sealants:

I've got a tube of Dow Corning SILASTIC 738RTV adhesive/sealant.
It's a non-corrosive one-part silicone rubber (white).

I bought it two years ago for use with antenna cables etc.
The problem is: it doesn't really cure, i.e. it stays sticky and soft.

Does anybody know this stuff? Is it faulty perhaps, or is it supposed to be soft and sticky forever?

73, OH2ZAZ

Arjen Raateland

Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki, Finland
SAS Support
EMAIL: Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi
tel. +358 0 4030 0457
fax +358 0 4030 0490
.-.-. -.-

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: Russ1031@aol.com
Subject: [2812] Soapbox for the August Spartan Sprints
Message-ID: <960818192849_459520887@emout17.mail.aol.com>

Here is the Soapbox for the August Spartant Sprints, held on the non-standard day of August 11. Thanks to all of you who participated and contributed this most interesting commentary.

Wow! Who put up the fence around Texas! Couldn't even get out of the state for any of my contacts. Didn't hear a thing until after the sun went down and the QRN was awful after that. Heard one K0 and a couple of 7's, but couldn't work them. Missed the last half hour because of a long distance telephone call from my brother-in-law...just when the band was starting to open up a bit.

Nevertheless, I had great fun and thanks for sponsoring the event. I'll be back for the next one, though Monday nights is doubles tennis night and I'll miss the first hour.

Good luck,

72,73

Gary, KJ5VW

Well I hung the Hy-Gain tape measure dipole set at 14060 in the trees in preparation for last nite. Fortunately I checked the band out using the base yaesu and 2 element quad. Had one qrp/qrp qso wid Bob, AC5AM. I thought things were going pretty well when, on Bob's last xm, the bottom dropped out. I made 2 more ARS SP contacts with the other station at qrp levels but was forced to crank the yaesu up to the 100 watt range so I cud be heard, hi hi. Had a very nice qso wid Bill, N7MFB after driving away the qrm (QRL QRL QRL - TU). Followed by a fairly gud cpy with Dan, AA7QU. Total weight of the equipment used exceeds the rated capacity of my pick-up truck, so I won't report it. Sounded like a lot more stations were working 20m so I guess my tirade last month abt local 40m contacts took, hi hi. I kinda wonder if there were any right coasters on but never turned the quad their way. 73/72 cul de Mike, KR4IT (the furthestest West in 4-land of any qrp'er I know)

Conditions were pretty good at my QTH.
Typical 40 mtrs to me...

Rig: OHR400 and Brass Racer and gel cell
Total wt: 7.25 lbs

Total QSO's: 15 All on 40 mtrs

Howdy, Russ.

Nice to work you again last night. I went to the St. Joe National Forest north of Moscow, ID and put a dipole up 50 feet between two trees. It was aimed at 205 degrees directly into northern CA, where I expected to make lots of contacts. HA! I made only 6 QSO's, but the station weight was down to 1.7 lbs. Rig-NC40A, battery-8-AAs, keyer-KC1, paddles-G4ZPY, headphones-tiny earphone. Well it was a great view in the forest. Next month will be a bit tougher to take things down since sunset will come earlier.

RESULTS: 6 QSOS from 1.7 lbs = 3.5 Q/P

Note: This score is an order of magnitude (10X) better than my June score, just as Wayne predicted. Actually he predicted scores in general, not mine!

72,
Randy
WB5QMP ARCI QRP-L NORCAL NWQRP ARS
Moscow, ID

Russ,

Here's my first Spartan Sprint entry, wish I could
have done more, cause I was having a good time.

Used a straight key, was way out of practice & had to
resist hooking up my ol'favorite 1962 Vibroplex bug.
Looks like I'll have to buckle down and learn a keyer.

* Your full name and callsign	Robert B Edwards, AE4CA
* Date of the sprint	August 14, 1996
* Total number of completed QSOS	8
* The weight of your station	1.5

Weights, measured on a (Weight Watcher's) scale:

straight key	0.2
8 AA batts	0.5
NN1G, 40m	0.5 (per ARS chart)
headphones	0.1
ant balun	0.2

	1.5

Hi, last nite, aug 14th local time . I made 3 QSO's KC5RAS TX 2w, N2VPK
NY 4w, and W3TS Pa 1 watt !!

My name Jim Hale KJ5TF rig is SW-40 in a little tin case, microsw
paddels, Ramsey CW-700 keyer, and 6 D cell batteries, (rechargeable&
bought surplus), charged by solar panel... naturally! ;))
Dont forget the flyweight headfones! I only could run 30 min in the
test! It was FUN! Thanks!! 72/3'z de Jim

Hi Russ,

Here are my results from last nights Spartan Sprint.

16 QSOs, 10 states, all on 40 Meters. (plus one QRO guy who gave up on me before reporting his power)

Equipment:

NW40 tcvr

St. Louis tuner

CMOS III keyer

Bencher paddles

7AH gel cell

Wal-Mart earphones

I weighed this stuff at 11 pounds on the bathroom scales. So Qs/Lb = 16/11

= 1.5. Don't have your original post with the standard weights on it, so if

my scales is off, feel free to modify. This is the station I normally use.

Thought I'd try it once just to have a comparison in case I get serious about this minimal stuff.

The Sprint was a lot of fun. - but wierd. I had two runs. Worked 6 stations in 14 minutes one time and 5 stations in 11 minutes another time. So, it took an hour and 35 minutes to work the other 5 stations. Alabama and Ohio were the farthestest west. I used a G5RV and a Big Loop about 50/50. Both runs were with the G5RV, but the big loop also made Al and Oh.

Thanks for the alternate day for the sprint!!

CUL,

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC

Hello Russ,

A great deal of QRN on 40 meters at this QTH.

QSO's

40 Meters 8

20 Meters 4

Total 12

Equipment:

Oak Hills 400, Kent touch paddle, Heath HFT-9 Tuner, Battery

Total Weight apx 14 lbs

73, Steve K8IDN QRP-L #331

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [2809] Solar Panel vs. Cost
Message-ID: <199608182237.SAA49473@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Hello gang,

I have been fooling around with solar power for about a year now.
I have been to the Ham fests, seen the "Cheap", panels,contolers etc.

If you pay cheap, you get cheap, that's the bottom line. I have a Jade controller that I modified for a battery bank. Schematic for the mod is available via a SASE. The panel I chose is a very solid steel backed 500 ma job from Anentnas West. It has no glass, won't break if I drop it. What's that you say? You'll never drop it? How about your wife as she hands it up to you on the roof, or out the window? hummm?

The Jade controller has enough room inside for a 7 ah battery if you trim off the meter posts. It makes a convenient package controller, battery in one neat box. My set up is rugged. It will last a long time even in Field Day conditions.

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: Dan Keen <70731.722@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [2808] Solar Panels - Source
Message-ID: <960818210048_70731.722_EHM79-1@CompuServe.COM>

Gang,

> The current (Sept. 96) QST has an article in it about a charge controller
> for Solar Panels. Page 41, written by Mike Bryce of this list. I've been
> using one of these controllers and a 10 watt Solar panel obtained from
> Mike's company since Dayton, and I'm very pleased with it. Thinking about
> building another to go with some old panels in my junk box.
>
> The company is:
> Sunlight Energy Systems
> 2225 Mayflower NW
> Massillon, Oh 44647
>

Thanks for the testimonial, I'm going to get that cheap little Bryce solar
controler, too. It cost about one fifth of other controllers, like the JADE.
I guess because its QRP sized to fit inside most QRP radios, is limited to 1
amp, uses LED for a meter, is the main reason for its small price tag.

Dan
70731.722@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: kr4it@juno.com (Philip M Cloud)
Subject: [2790] Telex/Hy-Gain portable dipole
Message-ID: <19960817.195849.7391.0.kr4it@juno.com>

Hello fellow listees. I received the new Telex/Hy-Gain catalog today
along with a copy of the Model 19-PD instruction manual. As most of you
are probably aware from my previous posts, Hy-Gain stopped production at
least 5 years ago of the stainless steel tape measure antenna because of
supplier problems, specifically with the stainless steel tape. These are

really great antennas and generally treasured by their owners. When I called Hy-Gain to check abt replacement elements they told me the above very sad story. However they were just announcing a replacement 2-30 mhz portable dipole using a synthetic cord with embedded conductors woven into it. I think there has been a few messages posted about where you could obtain the stuff. I am interested now, hi hi. Anyway from the salesman/engineers description it seemed to be a modern update of the old tape measure antenna. I expected some kind of reel mechanism, built-in balun, all told kind of a neat package. The instruction manual I received today is very descriptive and contains a number of pictures and drawings. The new 19-PD is NOT as equal substitute for the tape-measure dipole. A drawing or picture is worth a thousand words (no, ten thousand the way I write). But the way I would describe it is that you have a so-239 center-piece to which is attached to 116 1/2 ft runs on each side of the embedded cord. These have attached at their ends manual cable/rope winds (Hy-Gain calls them 'element bobbins'). I use these myself (\$1 each at the local Payless) to hold rope, rg58, electric cords, all kinds of windable things. Actually these appear to very pretty fancy 'bobbins' as they have an extension off of each each where the end of the cable is attached and the frequency marker on the cable is pushed thru a binding post with a knurled nut to tighten the assembly. I am not an antenna expert but I have built a variety of increasingly esoteric wire antennas and it appears to me that the unused element cord still wound up on the bobbin probably provides a measure of capacitance that widens the 1:1 band-width of the antenna. Something like a double bazooka. To the ends and butting up against the element bobbins are another bobbin at each end serving as storage for the 100' of dacron cord used to hang it in the trees.

My impression: While I am sure this is a fine product, it is NOT what I would call a suitable replacement for my tape-measure dipole. Actually it looks a lot like a few portable dipoles I have put together. The 'bobbin' with the knurled nut hardware looks interesting but not impossible to put together yourself. At the srp (suggested retail price) of \$263.95 this thing looks like a \$1200 USAF toilet seat in my mind. I don't believe I would be interested at 1/2 the price. Don't get me wrong here. I think Hy-Gain makes some fine reasonably priced antennas. I have a real case of the 'gotta have hots' for the 18HTS (thats the 10-80 vertical at 50' high) that Hy-Gain builds and the > \$700 price Hy-Gain wants for it doesn't seem totally ridiculous to me, given the expense I had with my 55' tilt-over, crank-up tower, beam and rotor, hi hi. Given my feelings, I am not going to pursue a group or individual purchase of the antenna. I would encourage each of you that expressed an interest to call Telex, ask for a catalog and draw your own opinion. Their amateur division telephone number is (402)467-5321. Sorry guys, but I love my antenna and I thought that maybe there was a chance for the group to benefit. 73/72 cul de Mike, KR4IT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: k5rov@juno.com (JAMES PARSONS)
Subject: [2806] TEST EQUIP.
Message-ID: <19960818.150908.2119.0.k5rov@juno.com>

One of you builders may have use for one of the following.....

Heath transistor/FET tester IT-3120, in good condition.
Measures DC Beta, Collector currents, Gm, Leakage. Measures in and out of
circuit. complete with manual. I
bought it new some years ago, but because of ill health, it sat in the
closet ever since.

Heath VTVM (tube type), IM-5218. I have not looked inside in years, but
it looks good outside. Worked last time I tried it...will be glad to
check it before shipping. with
manual.

Make an offer, or will trade for a good CW key or???

Jim
K5ROV

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: "Kelly" <kelman@dialnet.net>
Subject: [2807] WANTED; HW-9 MODS
Message-ID: <199608182021.PAA05972@shell.dialnet.net>

Hello All!

I have purchased a Heath HW-9 with WARC bands and I am now looking for mods
and improvements. I checked the QRP-L FTP site but did not see anything.
I am sure this has been covered on the list before. The rig already has
some mods,
so I might as well go ahead and customize it for my needs. Thanks in
advance.

Kelly Ellison - WB0WQS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: "Barry L. Eure" <ks4rt@cris.com>

Subject: [2799] Re: Altoids Tins
Message-ID: <32175F4F.1CB0@concentric.net>

Rick Tyler wrote:

after trying all
> the local specialty food shops that usually have oddball sweets and
> such, with no luck, I walked into my neighborhood Walgreens Drug Store
> yesterday, and lo and behold, there was a display of them. \$1.99

Our local Wal-Mart has Altoids Tins for \$1.19!

Tnx es 72's
Barry - KS4RT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: Bob Edwards <rbe@atlanta.com>
Subject: [2814] Re: coffee tins
Message-ID: <32179D5F.599B@atlanta.com>

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----2E051CB26D23
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

William R Colbert wrote:

>
> Have always used the tins for parts storage - never thought about
> using them as project boxes.....

Eat your heart out, coffee tin fans.

Already have a "CQ TEST ..." id'r in the Italian Cappuccino '94
special edition tin, and, will be putting my 49er in a Cafe
Vienna '90 tin some day soon. It's a really great Alpine scene.
Didn't know why I saved it at the time, XYL thought I was
crazy for saving it (& still does).

The id'r has a momentary start push button on back left corner.
It is out of sight and on a relatively strong part of the surface.

Plan to make a recessed panel for the 49er knobs, connectors,
and PCB so none of the wonderful Alpine painting is violated.
Then bolt the ~ 2.5" x 3" panel and its guts onto the bottom plate.

Expect the panel to be U shaped with flanges pointing outward.
The flanges will contact the bottom plate and will fit the
coffee tin curved bottom corners. That's the plan so far. 73/72

-----2E051CB26D23
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline; filename="FOOTER.TXT"

+-----+
| Bob, AE4CA, WAS-5W | "QRP", more from less....
+-----+
ARCII-8760, MIQRP-1410, COQRP-118, QRPL-606, ARS-145, NorCAL

-----2E051CB26D23--

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [2796] Re: construction bench lighting
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.960818063341.17220B-1000000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

I have followed the questions on fluorescent vs. incandescent magnifier
lamps and other lighting questions with some interest. Here are some
additional notes, some gleaned from the "Better Light, Better Sight
Institute, some extracted from experience.

The more diffused (shadowless) lighting on the bench, the better (assuming
we do not mean photoflood levels. A magnifier lamp is great, but
becareful of large transitions of light level from the illuminated area to
the generally lit area: they cause fatigue as the eyes adjust to
accommodate them. I sometimes use a magnifier, sometimes a magnifier
lamp, depending on the job. The work area is lit by two lamps with 200
watt (sometimes 170 watt) reader bulbs in lamps with diffusers to disperse
shaddows, one on either side of the main work area. Although that is a
lot of power company AC, I believe it is false economy to trade the power
for eye strain. The lamps illuminate both the work and the tool/test
equipment area and simply make the work area somewhat brighter than
adjacent areas as the two lighting areas add. Then either a fluorescent
or incandescent magnifier adds more light as needed, but without depending
on it for virtually all the lighting. All lamps are positioned so that I
never look directly into any of them, which saves time recovering from a
big glare spot that obscures small parts for 10 minutes at a time.

diffusers really help, spreading soft, virtually shadowless light in high quantities. So please look at your whole work area and ensure good illumination of the right kind; then add the magnifier lamp. I used to think my BLBS certified lamps got in the way on the bench until I tried working without them.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: launerb@crl.com (William H. Launer)
Subject: [2800] Re: construction bench lighting
Message-ID: <v01520d01ae3cf64aebd4@[192.0.2.1]>

I agree with LB:

>The more diffused (shadowless) lighting on the bench, the better
>(assuming we do not mean photoflood levels. A magnifier lamp is
>great, but be careful of large transitions of light level from the

I've used a 12 foot workbench for years, with general illumination provided by 2 dual 40w fluorescent fixtures suspended from the ceiling. Now, as the eyes have gotten older, I've borrowed (absconded?) my wife's magnifier lamp from her sewing room. It's one of the cheap incandescent units, but really helps for pc board construction, inspection, etc. The only addition I would recommend (especially if you're working on older gear (read "boatanchors") is a good flashlight - you can't always get the light from the magnifier where you want it.

Aside from the lighting, another item I've found extremely useful for pcb work is a small, universal holding device. It consists of a cast iron base, with a 5" rod attached at the center with a swivel arm to the base. An

alligator clip is attached to each end of the rod with a swivel clamp. I don't remember where I got it, and it doesn't have any markings on it, but it is a godsend when working on small items. It's also great for holding coaxial cable and connectors for terminating.

72/73 Bill wb0cld

Bill Launer

St. Charles, MO
launerb@crl.com
wb0cld@wb0cld.ampr.org [44.46.66.25]
qrp-l #279 qrp arco #3551
Grid Square EM48RT

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: jehutter@juno.com (John E. Hutter)
Subject: [2792] Re: HP - The Nerd's Badge of Honor
Message-ID: <19960817.125444.12311.2.JEHutter@juno.com>

Ron,

I not only still have my Post Versalog, I still use it from time to time.
Wanted to be a teacher when I was young but found I couldn't afford it
so I satisfy my cravings for "THAT LOOK when the penny drops" by
tutoring on the side. When we get to the part about logs (math not
radio) out comes the old Versalog. The antique novelty grabs their
attention right off the bat, grasp of the multiplying by adding concept
is almost instantaneous and from there it's off to the races. Couldn't
ask for a more ideal teaching aid.

73 de KC5MOE -- John

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: "Jack W. Rucker" <jackruc@mail.idt.net>
Subject: Re: HyGain TAPE DIPOLE ANT vs.KEVLAR w/BRAID or #26/19 STR. :INS WIRE

On 17 AUG 96, MIKE, KR4IT wrote: (re HyGain Tape Dipole Ant Subst.)

<<<<< When I called Hy-Gain to check abt replacement elements they told me the
<<portable dipole using a synthetic cord with embedded conductors woven into it.
<<I think there has been a few messages posted about where you could obtain the
<<stuff. ****I am interested now, hi hi.**** Anyway from the salesman/engineers
<<description it seemed to be a modern update of the old tape measure antenna. I
<<expected some kind of reel mechanism, built-in balun, all told kind of a neat
<<package. The instruction manual I received today is very descriptive and
<<contains a number of pictures and drawings. The new 19-PD is NOT as equal
<<substitute for the tape-measure dipole. A drawing or picture is worth a
<<thousand words (no, ten thousand the way I write). But the way I would
<<describe it is that you have a so-239 center-piece to which is attached to 116
<<1/2 ft runs on each side of the embedded cord. These have attached at their

[illegible]

On AUG 96 W4SON wrote:

```
<<<- - - Sources of flexible wire:
```

- A) The Wireman, Inc. 800+727-9473 "SILKY #534-CQ 'Invisible' copper-clad steel #26 (19 strands) with a thin, tough dull black polyethylene jacket @0.12/ft (1K' spool lots - 8-14-96 quote) (Silky also available in #18 <16 strand>)
- B) The RF Connection, Gaithersburg, MD 800+783-2666 has 2 neat offerings:
- 1) 1/16" Kevlar cord, covered with *fine* copper braid @ \$19/100' or 0.21/ft (also available on 1K' spools) (135 ft. weight = 4 oz.)
 - 2) 3/32" Kevlar cord (same as above) - -23/100, or \$0.25/ft. (Also 1K spl.)

Kevlar is strong, does not stretch, uv proof, dark olive drab, used in <<<bullet-proof vests. (Heat softens, solder w/care, or use alligator clips)<<<

```
<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<
Personal notes: I use the Silky #26, and the 1/16' Kevlar; both are great.
                I will participate in group purchase, if enough interest shown.
                Usual disclaimer; :-) user. (Why didn't I think of Kevlar/braid?)
```

73,
Jack W4SON/9N1SON

-----6B8234402563--

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: sholla@panasonic.atlanta.com (Holland, Steve)
Subject: [2795] RE: IMPORTANT note about RTV (via Paul,
Message-ID: <1996Aug18.061000.1619.42560@ntserver.panasonic.atlanta.com>

Another important thing to watch out for with RTV. RTV is a very good insulator when dry but some brands are conductive until it cures. This can produce interesting results in a circuit if some gets on while it is turned on. If you are in doubt about the RTV use an ohm meter to measure it while it is wet. If you get a reading let it cure before turning on the circuit. Hope this helps. 72 de N9HXX/4

Steve N9HXX/4
sholla@panasonic.atlanta.com
NNN00NT-T

From: svecbrdk[SMTP:svecbrdk@well.com]
Sent: August 16 1996 14:11
Subject: IMPORTANT note about RTV (via Paul, W0R

Thought I'd relay this bit of very useful info. Thanks, Paul!

>When you specify RTV you need to specify Electronic Grade RTV
>which is fairly hard to find in stores. The regular RTV (that smells
>like vinegar) has acetic acid in it which will eat up your
>wires after a while. Paul S.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: Dan Keen <70731.722@compuserve.com>
Subject: [2802] Re: KC2 report (under ma
Message-ID: <960818174250_70731.722_EHM33-1@CompuServe.COM>

> So save the incandescent one for sewing and use the fluorescent for the
> serious stuff - qrp kit building - hi.
>
> Thanks Preston for the reminder.

>
> Cheers 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB
>

Bob,

Don't look now but La Kabonga is standing behind you with ukulele in hand.
KABONG! Oops, too late...

Dan
70731.722@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [2794] Re: KC2 report (under magnification)
Message-ID: <199608180635.AAA16083@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

Bob,
You guys are a bunch of wimps. I still build my stuff out in the
barn with candle light and an old Weller soldering gun. No sweat.

Seriously, with the density of some of these PCB boards we see
today, there is nothing like a good source of light directly
above to make assembly so much easier. I second Preston's and
Bob G's recommendations for a good shop light. A must.

Paul NA5N

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [2797] Re: parts
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960818121728.00875598@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Hi Jerry and QRP-L gang,

Jerry brings up a good point for folks who don't live near a metro area or
"silicon" area. I too have searched through Mouser, Dan's etc for these two
parts (and the beads not an easy one to find if you want to follow the
number that Wayne recommended and plan on buying JUST one).

Possibly, since these are parts particular to the Wilderness Sierra maybe it
would be prudent to see if Bob at Wilderness would "stock" these onesy-twosy
items for us (at a reasonable price and shipping price). There are some

other parts like the ABX external pot and matching Sierra knob which may also fit in this category.

I don't have Bob's email address but maybe some one could contact Bob and see if would be willing to do this for his customer base and this doesn't imply getting into the parts business (Dick at Oak Hills Research had to get out of the parts business I'm sure because of the small profit-to-expense ratio).

Cheers Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB in parts rich (not) Newfoundland.

At 16:40 8/17/96 -0500, you wrote:

>Since I can't get the parts I need to modify my Sierra here in good ole
>Rapid City, SD (this place is 20 years behind time). Where is a good place
>to order the following 2 items. 1- J310, 2- fb64-101 ? I looked on Dan's
>Small Parts page and he does not have them.

>

>Jerry - NR5A

```
-----
| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPPer Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:      rgobrick@nfld.com |
| Compuserve:    70466.1405@compuserve.com |
|-----
```

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Aug 18 23:17:41 1996

From: john andrews <jm165723@eee.org>

Subject: [2803] Re: parts

Message-ID: <32175AB2.21A7@eee.org>

john andrews wrote:

>

> Jerry wrote:

> >

> > Since I can't get the parts I need to modify my Sierra here in good ole
> > Rapid City, SD (this place is 20 years behind time). Where is a good place
> > to order the following 2 items. 1- J310, 2- fb64-101 ? I looked on Dan's
> > Small Parts page and he does not have them.

> >

> > Jerry - NR5A

>

> Hello Jerry and all:

>

> This is a complaint I hear so often. My guess is that Rapid City is
> overflowing with the parts you need.

>
> Yes, finding the parts you need is a challenge, and thats just a part
> of the fun. I've seen many a ham chase thru a swamp and woods looking
> for a 25mw "fox" on 2 meters but won't spend 15 minutes with the TV
> repairman asking for a junk TV.
>
> This has been my game plan for years:
>
> 1. Build some simple test equipment.- One of my favorites is a simple
> "4 stage 75 meter ssb receiver"- I think this is one featured in
> QRP Classics(ARRL). I use it as a test bed for all sorts of things.
> The board has sockets for the 9 meg. xtals and the dual-gate mosfets.
> CB crystals are usually 3rd overtone and work well for filters. The
> 40673 (and it's Japanese counter-part) work well as a driver,osc,
> amp, mixer etc. with the gates tied together it will also work in
> most places as a switch. I've never seen it fail for general replace-
> ment(YET).
>
> 2. I've seen posts about the black eye that NTE is getting over the
> NTE-312 as a replacement for various fets. The pin-out MAY be
> reversed. Throw together a simple test jig and measure it.
> (I was trying to sell a fet/transistor tester kit at the local LA
> swapmeets for next to nothing- complete with meter,sockets,
> new project box, etc.- could'nt give it away). I use mine
> constantly.
>
> 3. Keep your eyes and ears open. A good place to look for parts:
>
> A. Your fellow hams. Badly overlooked. The best example of this
> is Jim Cates, the Norcal Guru. Jim has a red rubber stamp on
> his letters to fellow hams that says something like" I collect
> Qrp stuff. What have you got?". I've got a small pile I'm
> working on for him.
>
> B. The local second-hand store. I bought a Ten-Tec 509 years ago
> at a pawn-shop for \$50.00- Boy, do I miss it!
> A hand-full of small, cheap signal generators became Qrp xcvsr.
> A name and phone number on a paper bag alerts the manager that
> you are a cheap-skate looking for "radio-stuff".
>
> C. Unconventional places- Even the smallest airport has a radio
> repair shop with stuff the boss has been trying to get rid of for
> years. The cable company upgrades constantly(I've got 200 lbs
> of pc boards with parts marked "Collins, Mini-circuits, Narco,
> Hy-Gain, Kraco, Panasonic, etc). Gas and other utility companies
> have their own radio maintenance facilities, sometimes.
>
> D. Getting the stuff sorted and cataloged is the hardest part...

> I use the NTE system...example: NTE-490(enhanced mode fet)=
> 2n7000 and BS-170. These are nice switches for QSK circuits.
>
> E. Am I better at figuring this stuff out? No...You "smart guys"
> intimidate me a little. I have to work at least 3 times harder
> then you. For years I thought Norton was Jackie Gleasons' pal.
> -j/+j and the "black box" concept was an absolute mystery. It
> took a long time to grasp such an abstract concept.
>
> Don't be afraid to Cut and Try. This is a hobby, remember?
>
> As to the original question: Try something else with similar character-
> istics!
>
> 72, John- N5INZ/6